# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1531
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2003
AMENDMENT IN NDPS ACT
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB;DALPAT SINGH PARASTE

**Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether in spite of the operation of the Narcotic Drugs and Psycotropic Substance (NDPS)Act, 1985, drug addiction is on the increase in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make amendments to the said Act;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the remedial measures taken by the Government to control drug addiction?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY IN SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI NAGMANI)

(a) Various surveys, studies and reports indicate an increasing incidence of alcohol and drug abuse amongst certain vulnerable sections of the society including youth, students, street children, sex workers, slum dwellers etc.

(b) & (c) There is no such proposal. The Act has been amended in the year 2001 to strengthen the penal provisions consistent with the gravity of the offence.

(d) While the Act is responsible for regulating the availability of illicit drugs there are various other factors, which have a bearing on the consumption of illicit drugs.

(e) Recognising drug abuse as psycho-socio-medical problem, requiring community based interventions, the Government is implementing the `Scheme of Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse`, wherein registered Non-Government Organizations are being provided financial support for awareness programmes, counselling, treatment and rehabilitation services in varied settings such as community, workplaces, educational institutions, prisons, etc. with an objective of reducing the incidence and consumption of illicit drugs.